

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/082,089
Amendment dated June 17, 2004
Reply to OA of April 1, 2004

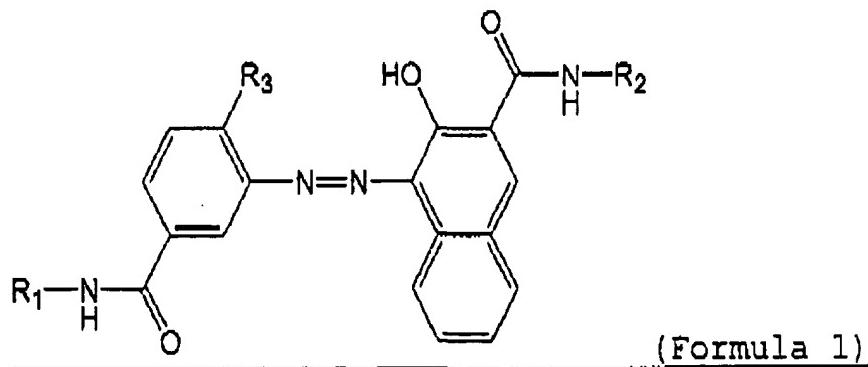
IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-4, 6-7 and 10-11 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claim 8 and add new claims 13-17, as follows:

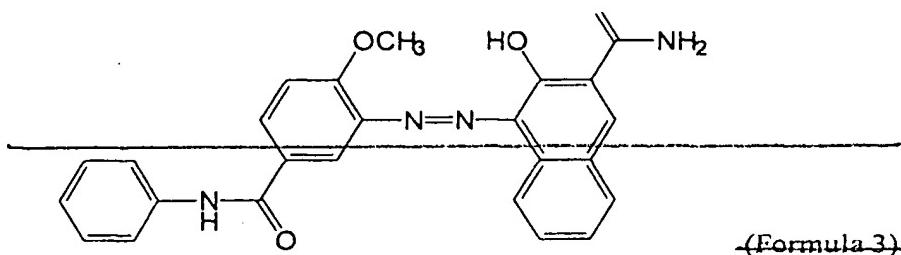
Claims 1-7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): A method of producing spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development, in which the toner comprises a binder resin polyester resin having a carboxyl group and an organic pigment dispersed finely in the polyester resin binder resin, wherein the organic pigment is an organic pigment represented by any one of formulas 3, 4 and 6-9 Formula 1:

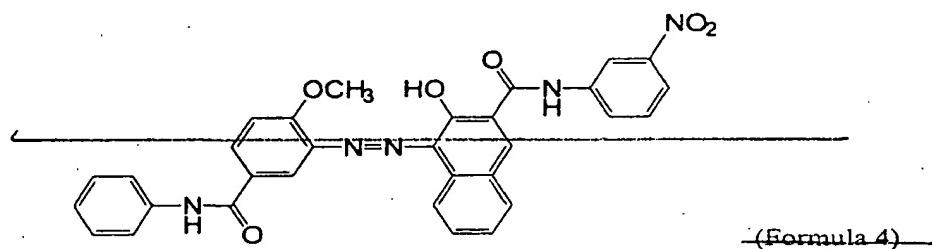


wherein R₁ represents a non-substituted phenyl group or a phenyl group having a substituent, R₂ represents hydrogen, a non-substituted phenyl group or a phenyl group having a substituent, and R₃ represents an alkoxy group or an ester group,

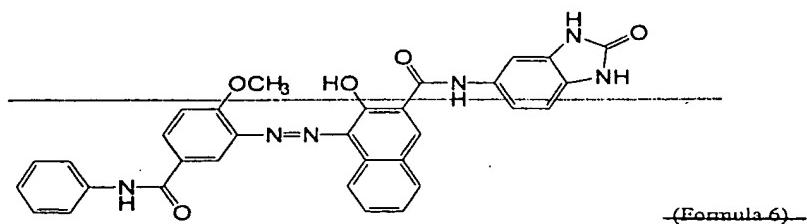
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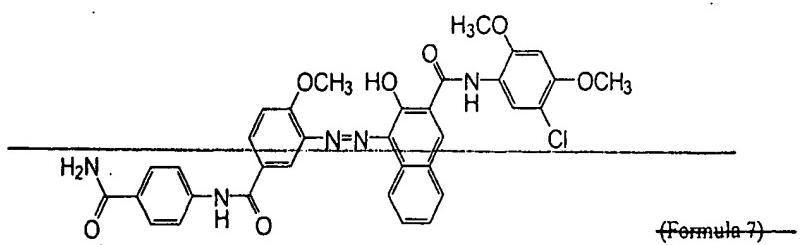
(Formula 3)



(Formula 4)

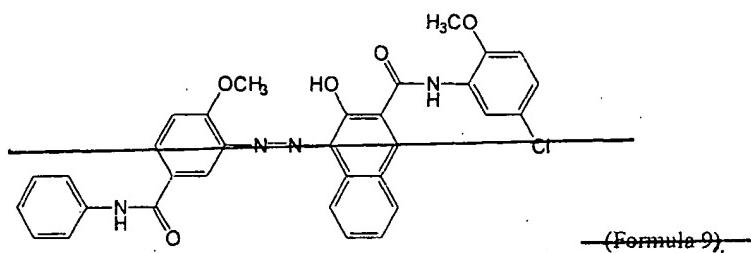
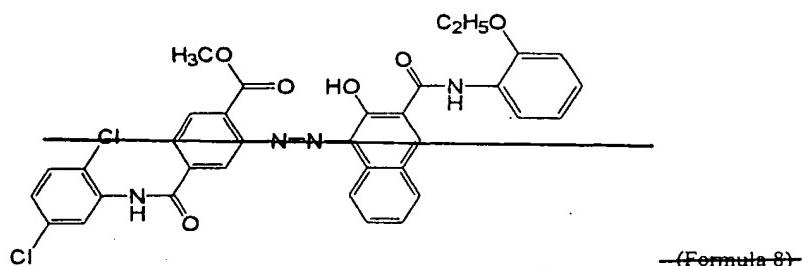


(Formula 6)



(Formula 7)

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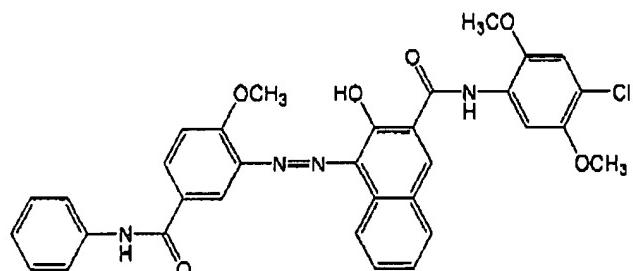
the method comprising mixing a mixture containing a binder resin polyester resin having a carboxyl group and an organic pigment represented by any one of the formulas 3, 4 and 6-9 Formula 1 with an aqueous medium in the presence of a base and a phase inversion accelerator, which may be methanol, ethanol, isopropanol, n-propanol, isobutanol, n-butanol, t-butanol, sec-butanol, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, propylene glycol monomethyl ether, ethylene glycol monomethyl ether, barium chloride, calcium chloride, cuprous chloride, cupric chloride, ferrous chloride, and ferric chloride to prepare a colored particle suspension containing the mixture, as color particles, emulsified in the aqueous medium, separating the colored particles from the colored particle suspension, and drying the colored particles.

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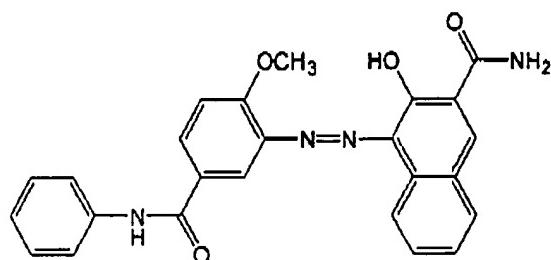
Claims 9-11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): A method of producing the spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development according to claim 8, wherein the mixture is prepared by previously dissolving or dispersing the binder resin and the organic pigment in an organic solvent and then the resulting solution or dispersion is mixed with an aqueous medium.

Claim 13 (New): A method of producing spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development according to claim 8, wherein the organic pigment represented by Formula 1 is any one of formulas 2 to 9:



(Formula 2)

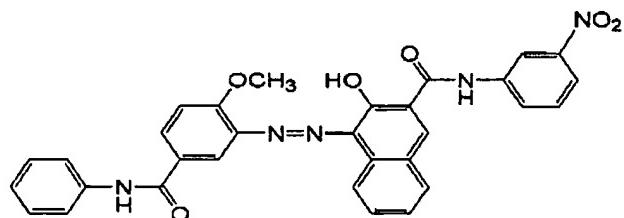


(Formula 3)

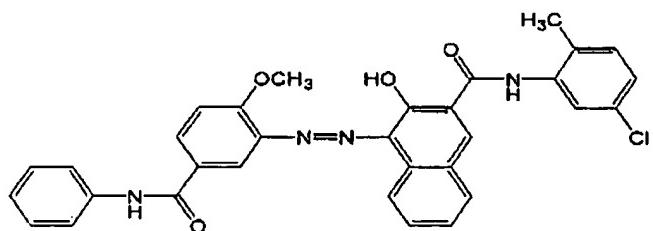
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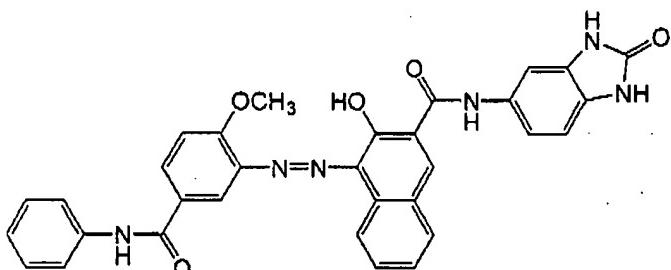
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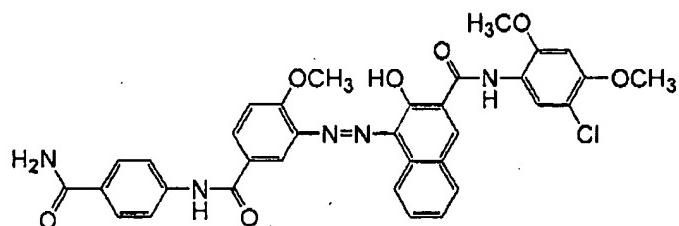
(Formula 4)



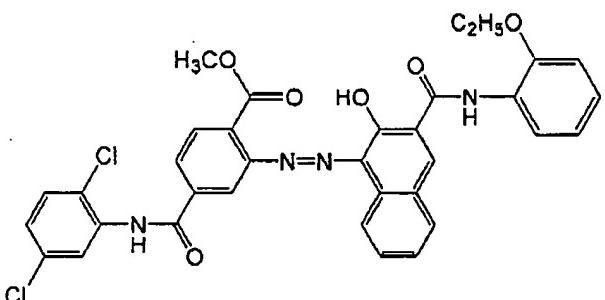
(Formula 5)



(Formula 6)

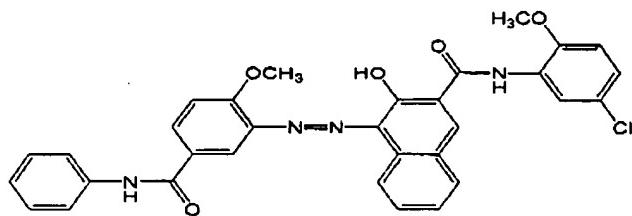


(Formula 7)



(Formula 8)

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(Formula 9).

Claim 14 (New): A spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development according to claim 8.

Claim 15 (New): A spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development according to claim 8, wherein an average roundness of the color toner is 0.93 or more.

Claim 16 (New): A spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development according to claim 8, wherein an average roundness of the color toner is 0.97 or more.

Claim 17 (New): A spherical dry color toner for electrostatic image development according to claim 8, wherein an average roundness of the color toner is 0.98 or more.